

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

2 FEBRAURY 2020

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

YEAR A

MISSION STATEMENT

St Theresa's Catholic Parish is a vibrant, inclusive and welcoming community committed to living and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Under our baptismal mission and inspired by the Spirit, we are bread for one another and nourished we reach out to make a difference in the world.

Reflection

For most of its history today's feast was a dual observation. The Purification of Mary accompanied the Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple.

It's not that long ago that western cultures had ceremonies to 'purify' women after childbirth. These rituals have their roots in some appalling thinking about how the flow of women's blood defiles them and those who touched them.

Maybe the only modern reclamation we could make of these rites would be to understand them as purification of the memory. After the selflessness of a pregnancy and the great pain of childbirth, a mother could use such a ritual moment to reclaim her body. In any case, it is right and good that we no longer overly emphasise this side of today's feast.

The Presentation of Jesus is easier to handle and to understand. Jewish law stipulated that within forty days of a child's birth the parents should present their baby in the temple as an act of thanksgiving. In the Bible the number forty always indicates a time of formation. So forty days after Christmas the Church has today's celebration. As Luke describes the scene Simeon and Anna represent the Old Covenant. He embodies all those who longed to see the Christ. She embodies all those who prophesied his coming. In a few sentences Luke tells us that just as the Israelites entered the Promised Land after forty years in the desert, so now the time of waiting, searching and hoping is over. Israel can receive the promised Messiah. The old covenant has been fulfilled and the new covenant is established in Jesus.

The word 'presentation' is used in two revealing ways these days. In psychology they talk about a 'presenting problem'. In medicine people are said to 'present' with certain symptoms. In both cases, the word presentation is used to indicate that something more important lies beneath what is first observed. Further investigation reveals the deeper causes and the best course of action.

So to us. We present ourselves in the temple today and it's important we remember that we do have to put on a show for God. God does not need a performance from us; God invites us to an encounter of love. Seeing that God knows us intimately it's crazy that we should be anything but ourselves before him. But we sometimes go through the pretence of dressing things up, pretending otherwise or putting on a show.

Today's feast reminds us that when we encounter the presence of God a range of responses are on display. Just recall the ones in today's Gospel: expectation, hope, frailty, thanksgiving, foreboding, puzzlement, love and joy.

May Jesus' presentation enable us to let pass in peace any need to act before God, but rather embrace a new way of encountering God's presence, where we own just how we are, and not how we would like to be. When we do this we can enjoy the possibilities of a rich, deep and realistic relationship with God. We also find that it's so much easier to discover, with God, the causes and the actions that will lead us to healing, fulfilment and peace.

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Richard Leonard SJ is the Director of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting, is a member of the Australian Catholic Media Council and a film critic for all the major Australian Catholic newspapers. He completed a PhD in cinema studies at the University of Melbourne. He lectures in cinema and theology at the Jesuit College of Spirituality and has been a visiting lecturer in Australian cinema at the University of Melbourne, a visiting scholar within the School of Theatre, Film and Television at UCLA and is visiting professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Catholic University, has lectured widely and is the author of numerous books.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Bill Spence (Maryanne Long's Friend)
Guido Mattiazzi

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners:

Francois Frichot **Neville Preece**
Len Pauli **Moya Schaefer**
Eric & Vi Howe
Rosemary & Brian Carter

Friends and Family

Kate Sturgeon (Rita Sturgeon's Granddaughter)
Peter Brown (Denis Brown's Brother)
Stella Artuso (Paul & Kathryn Marangelli's Niece)
Anna Sellar (Trish & Terry Sheely's daughter)
Bernadette Welch (friend of Bette Flamstead)
Kathleen le Gras (Sister of Sr Una)
Shona Kraayvanger (Gabrielle Adam's daughter)
Joe Short (Powell family group)
Indiana Harman (Ray & Madeline Taylor's Granddaughter)
Louis Gandini (Lina Pervan's brother)
Robert Gandini (Lina Pervan's brother)
Connie Bamgart (Lina Pervan's friend)
Peter & Elaine Dillon (Vivienne Price's father & mother)
Patricia Jenkins (Thel Jelley's cousin)
Roslyn Morton (Patrick's sister)
Simon Riethmuller (Shirley's son)
Max Shearer (Grandson - Judy Shearer)
John Mullen (Helen McNaught's nephew)
Archie Mullen (Helen McNaught's brother)
Rev. Brian Sparksman
Fr Peter McGrath .CP
John Morgan (Kathy Sternes Uncle)
Veronica Griinke (Friend & neighbour of Kathryn & Paul Marangelli)
Molly Schmidt (Aileen Collins' friend)

ANNIVERSARIES

Helen Richards **Dan Brady**
Allen Blakeley **Mercia Arnold**
John Cartwright **Tony Arday**
Kath Mulheran **Greg Lyons**
Elizabeth Long **Kathleen Howe**
Ian McQuillan
Vera Flynn

MASSES


READINGS

BAPTISM

MON	NO MASS
TUE	NO MASS
WED	9am MASS
THU	NO MASS
FRI	9am MASS
SAT	6pm MASS
SUN	9.30am MASS
RECONCILIATION IS AVAILABLE BEFORE MASS OR BY APPOINTMENT	
If you require a Gluten Free host, please advise the coordinator.	

Presentation of the Lord Year A
First Reading: Malachi 3: 1-4
 The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple
Responsorial Psalm: 23: 7-10
 Who is this king of glory? Is it the Lord!
Second Reading: Hebrews 2: 14-18
 He had to be made like us in all things.
Gospel Acclamation: Luke 2: 32
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people, Israel. Alleluia!
Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40
 My eyes have seen your saving power.
Next week's readings.
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Isaiah 58: 7-10
1 Corinthians 2: 1-5
Matthew 5: 13-16

This week through the Sacrament of Baptism we welcome **Annabelle Kate Saunders** into our parish.



Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month either during Mass at 9.30am or after Mass at 11.00am.

SYCHAR SPIRITUALITY CENTRE SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH

Monday Closed (except for monthly meetings of Sychar Leadership Circle).
Tuesday 9.30 - 2.30
 4.00 - 5.30 Only for those attending **Christian Meditation Group** (led by Hilary Fogerty)
Wednesday 9.30 - 2.30
 Except 12 February 9.30 - 12.30
 19 February Closed
Thursday 9.30 - 2.30
 Except 20 February Closed
 12 March 2.00 - 6.00
Friday 9.30 - 2.30
 Except 27 March (Specific Group Reflection Day)
 10 April (Good Friday)
First Friday 10.00 - 11.30 *Lectio Divina* (led by Elaine Morzone MFIC)
Second and Fourth Fridays: 11.00 - 11.45 Christian Meditation (led by Colleen Free)
Third Friday: 10.00 - 1.30 *Visio Divina* (led by Elaine Morzone MFIC, using the art of Sieger Koder as focus)

LENTEN PROGRAM FOR 2020

This year we will be using the Wollongong Diocesan Program "**Grace**" and the Brisbane Diocesan Program "**Be Opened**"
Grace includes short daily reflections from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday in addition to the longer-form Sunday Gospel reflections, Spiritual direction, Gospel readings, responsorial psalms, prayer and reflection questions.
Be Opened includes 7 week program (6 Lent and Easter Sunday, gospel readings and reflections, prayer and personal stories
 Both programs provide all that are traditionally part of the Lenten programs for groups
 St Theresa's will be offering 3 Lenten Groups. The cost will be \$8.00 per booklet. Both booklets feature beautiful religious artworks as well.
 Monday afternoon and Friday morning groups will use '**Grace**' program and Tuesday evening at 5.15pm will use '**Be Opened**' program.
 Both books are available for perusal in the foyer.
 If you wish to be part of a Lenten Group please add your name and contact details on the sheet in the foyer.

NOTICES



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2020

The Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist will be celebrated in our parish in June.

All children in year 4 or above including secondary students are invited to be part of the program.



Program Information Night

Tuesday, February 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Invitation letters and flyers are in the foyer, please take one if you are interested. If you have any enquiries please contact Monica Brennan on 4639 4688 or email monica@sttheresas.org.au



SOUND DESK VOLUNTEERS -CAN YOU HELP

Our worshipping community at St Theresa's values the contribution made by our volunteers who operate the sound desk, controlling sound and visuals. Recently with some families moving from our parish and various other commitments, we have lost some valuable members of the ministry who are available on Sundays. We are looking for teams of 2 to come on board and be part of this ministry. Training will be provided and an experienced person will lead you through during the initial masses that you are the sound desk operators. Please consider this ministry and contact the parish office by phone Ph:4639 4688 or email office@sttheresas.org.au or monica@sttheresas.org.au if you wish to belong to this ministry.



PLENARY COUNCIL 2020:

LOCAL LISTENING & DISCERNMENT

Date: 15/2/20 Saturday

Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm

Where: The event will be held in the Chapel House) (formally the Bishop's Office)68 Lindsay St, Twmba. A gathering for people interested in participating in the Listening and Discernment Phase for the Plenary Council.

Outline for the day:

9.30am to 10am: Gather- Morning tea available on arrival

10am: Welcome and introduction

10.05am: Begin the Listening and Discernment process

12noon: Lunch break

12.45pm: Resume Listening and Discernment

1.45pm to 2pm: Closing Prayer and Conclusion

What to bring:

BYO lunch (tea, coffee and juice will be provided)

Pen and note pad



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A HOME STAY FAMILY

St Mary's College is seeking any St Theresa's Parishioner who is interested in hosting students who live outside of the Darling Downs during term time. The students are not interested in attending a boarding school in the region.



Home-stay families would receive financial support and would be responsible for care, meals and transport.

To further discuss, please speak to Principal Michael Newman at Mass or contact

Michael's PA on 07 4637 7333

JOHN WALLIS MEMORIAL LECTURE

Lindy Chamberlain-Creighton:

When: 8 March at 2pm

Where: St Theresa's Parish Centre
Cnr Curzon & Campbell Sts, Toowoomba.

For enquiries or bookings contact Sr Mary Cleary 4634 9786, marycleary5@bigpond.com

BUS TRIP MARIAN VALLEY RELICS TOUR

St Therese of Lisieux and her parents.

When: Saturday 15 February.

Cost: \$25.00 pp

Bus departs Neil St outside St Patrick's Cathedral at 7.00am.

For bookings contact Theresa on 0434 528 904

SVDP LEARN TO SEW PROGRAMMME

St Vincent de Paul & DHSS will be holding sewing programmes which are open to all but particularly for migrant's and refugees as being a way for us to meet with them & vice-versa. There are flyers in the foyer with details. For further information please contact Gita 4699 5200.

LITTLE BLACK BOOKS

Little Black Books will be available next week for \$2.00 The Little Black Books have reflections for each day of Lent.

AGED CARE - RETIREMENT

APELS CONSULTANTS

Aged Care Specialist

THINKING OF MOVING TO A RETIREMENT VILLAGE OR DOWNSIZING? NEED MORE CARE?

We advocate to assist with: *Where best to go? Family mediation? Pros and cons?*

For an obligation free catch up and chat

call Paul Apel

4646 4128 or 0419 722 264

Parish Priest:

Fr Brian Noonan ph:4696 7094
e-mail: brian.noonan@sttheresas.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Monica Brennan
Ph.: 4639 4688 Fax 4639 6538
e-mail: monica@sttheresas.org.au

Parish Secretary:

Janet Weier
Ph.: 4639 4688 Fax: 4639 6538
e-mail: office@sttheresas.org.au

Church: Cnr Campbell & Curzon Sts, Toowoomba

Office: 55 Curzon Street, Toowoomba

Parish Website www.sttheresas.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Brian Noonan, Michael Murtagh, Tim Burgess, Gay Jorgensen, Vanessa Horton, Bernadette Zimbwa, Gailene Jurgs, Matt Boyd, David Wilson, Monica Brennan.

Finance Committee

Fr. Brian Noonan, Pat Morton, Warren Dredge, Ray Taylor, Shane Blakeley, Brian Wilson, Pat Richardson, Alfia Ginardi.

Liturgy Team

Fr. Brian Noonan, Jan Mayo, Peter Kenny, Carole Rogan, Libby Rosentreter, Monica Brennan, Suzanne Cavanagh.

Musicians

Norma Kenny, Kathy Sternes, Elizabeth Stewart, Libby Rosentreter.

Baptism Team:

Cath Kelly, Jenny Ryan, Tracy George, Bernadette Hede, Alison Daniel, Anne Anderson, Jan Watkins, Maureen Burke, Angela Irvine, Mary Otto, Jane Burgess, Catherine Cooper.

Sacramental Team:

Monica Brennan, Vanessa Horton, David Wilson, Gay Jorgensen.

Consolation Team:

Fr Brian Noonan, Lyn McRae, Peter Kenny, Bette Flamsteed, Pam Merritt, Alf Mason, Moya Schaefer, Josephine Nolan, Liz Phelan, Monica Brennan

Welcome & Hospitality Team:

Paul & Kathryn Marangelli, Carole Rogan, Maureen Burke.

Family Groups:

Contact Parish Office 4639 4688

Care & Concern Team

Coordinator: Pamela Merritt

RCIA

Coordinator: David Wilson



DATES TO REMEMBER FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH

Friday: **February 7.10am** Mater Dei Opening School Liturgy. William Morris Centre
Wednesday: **February 12. 6pm** Confirmation & First Eucharist, Parent Information night.
Wednesday: **February 19** Council of Priests Roma.
Sunday: **February 23. 9am** Mass St Patrick's Cathedral Launch Project Compassion
Wednesday: **February 26** Ash Wednesday 9am Mass Mater Dei Year 4-6
11.15am Liturgy Mater Dei Prep -Year 3

PRAYER FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY BUSHFIRE AND DROUGHT:

Eternal God,
In wisdom and love you created our earth to sustain us and give us life.
We turn to you now in faith, hope and love, asking you to look with favour on our fire-ravaged and drought-stricken land, on our starving and displaced animals, on our failing crops and burning farms, towns and forests. Strengthen, sustain and give new heart to our farmers and to all who are affected by drought; be with those who support them. Strengthen and comfort the victims of the fires, those who have lost family, friends, property and stock. Protect our volunteer firefighters and all members of essential services.
In your loving providence, send abundant rain to quench the fires and to restore our parched earth. Father of all compassion, hear our prayer through Jesus Christ your Son, in whom the promise of new life has dawned, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life: Renew your faithful people; Renew the face of the earth.
Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Mary, help of Christians – Pray for us.
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop – Pray for us.



Second & Fourth Tuesdays /month

St Vincent de Paul St Theresa's Conference, 4pm, Contact 0408 808 437

First Tuesday/month

Care and Concern Meeting, 9.30am Parish Office.

First Wednesday /month

Parish morning tea at 9.45am, Cobb & Co Museum

Second Sunday

Mad Toowoomba Group from 7.00pm at St Anthony's. Parish Centre.

